

WINCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE RURAL DISTRICT

For the Year 1971

BY

P. J. SPELLER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

AND

E. M. ORGAN, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector and Public Cleansing Officer

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Chief Public Health Inspector and Public Cleansing Officer

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

P. J. SPELLER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Public Cleansing Officer:

E. M. ORGAN, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health
Inspector and Public Cleansing
Officer:

F. LEE, M.A.P.H.I.

District Public Health
Inspectors:

E. BENNETT, M.A.P.H.I.
B. H. BROCKWAY, M.A.P.H.I.
A. J. COOKSON, M.A.P.H.I.
D. T. EVANS, M.A.P.H.I.
L. A. FEETAM, M.A.P.H.I.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

I. J. CAMERON

Chief Clerk:

C. B. ASHMAN

Clerical Staff:

Miss J. M. DEWEY
Mrs. M. J. FLOWERS
Mrs. A. M. DAVIES
Mrs. P. M. MORRISON
Mrs. I. M. HOWELL (part-time)

Rodent Officer:

O. J. NORRIS

Public Cleansing:

Superintendent:

K. G. JONES

Clerical Assistant:

M. J. BUCKLAND



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Telephone:
Winchester 3201

45, Romsey Road,
Winchester.

July, 1972

To the Chairman and Members,
Winchester Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1971 on the health of the Winchester Rural District.

The general health of the District has been good and no serious epidemics of notifiable disease have occurred.

The estimated increase of population for this last twelve months has been more marked than in previous years with, perhaps, increasing pressures on housing, health and welfare services.

There is also an increase in the number of live births although the actual rate is somewhat lower. The illegitimate birth rate remains about the same with no deaths. The general infant mortality rate is raised compared with 1970 but in actual deaths this represents an increase of nine, most of the deaths occurring in the first week of life and the most common cause being birth injury. Once again there have been no maternal deaths. A fall in the number of total deaths has occurred which, taking the increase in the population into account, and after due correction of the statistics, shows a death rate lower than in previous years and lower still than the rate for England and Wales as a whole. The common causes of death as before are heart and cerebro-vascular disease.

Prior to measles vaccination, one would have expected 1971 to be an epidemic year and, in fact, the number of notified cases has increased slightly: it is pleasing to note that infective jaundice has not been a problem this year. Of the bowel infections, reported cases of food poisoning with Salmonella organisms do not reflect the increasing trend in the country as a whole.

The computer is playing a more significant role in infant immunisation administration (much office work is still involved in arrangements for the immunisation of school-children) and an improvement is seen in the statistics for primary vaccinations. Rubella vaccination is now extended to eleven, twelve and thirteen-year-old girls and in future each year, eleven-year-old girls will be offered this as a routine measure.

Most years, and particularly in the Summer season, it is necessary to provide health surveillance of tourists returning to this country from holidays or work abroad, who have acquired or been exposed to infectious disease. Sometimes the risk is of smallpox or typhoid in unprotected persons and in the Autumn we were especially concerned to guard against the importation of cholera by travellers returning from Spain. This entailed domiciliary visits by the Public Health Inspectors and some additional laboratory investigations. In this context, I wish to record my appreciation of the willing help that this Department invariably receives from Dr. M. Hughes, Director of the Winchester Public Health Laboratory.

Once again I must acknowledge the encouragement and support of the Health Committee throughout the year and also the assistance of the staff in the Public Health Department - not least in the preparation of this report.

P. J. SPELLER.

Medical Officer of Health.

A. STATISTICS OF THE AREA

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	109,605
Population (mid-1971)	...	...	...	...	62,770
Number of inhabited dwellings		...	...	...	20,851
Rateable Value (at 1st April 1971)	...		...	...	£2,593,890
Estimated penny rate product (1971-72)			...	...	£10,322

Population

			<u>Census</u> <u>1961</u>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>1971</u>
General Population	...	...	46,237	62,770
Number of inhabited dwellings		...	14,450	20,851
Number of persons per dwelling		...	3.19	3.01

The estimated increase in the population is 5,570 as compared with that shown for the previous year.

The parishes showing the largest increases were Hedge End, New Alresford and Fair Oak with smaller increases in the parishes of Bursledon, West End, Littleton, Hound, Botley and Colden Common.

Particulars of the population and the number of dwellings in each of the various parishes are shown in the following table:

PARISH	POPULATION		DWELLINGS		
	Census 1961	Estimated 1971	Council Houses	Caravans	Total Dwellings
Abbotts Barton ...	23	32	-	-	9
Beauworth ...	149	114	-	1	41
Bighton ...	179	164	4	-	66
Bishops Sutton ...	538	575	18	-	201
Botley ...	1,423	2,213	133	29	646
Bramdean ...	535	540	20	-	238
Bursledon ...	3,560	4,278	507	12	1,467
Cheriton ...	563	640	27	3	215
Chilcomb ...	176	163	-	24	62
Colden Common ...	1,668	2,434	98	186	826
Compton ...	1,273	1,374	87	2	437
Crawley ...	498	453	14	2	160
Fair Oak ...	1,858	3,490	153	39	1,113
Hamble ...	3,001	3,365	315	44	1,038
Headbourne Worthy	823	744	8	7	396
Hedge End ...	4,464	8,759	262	242	3,006
Hound ...	4,992	5,000	568	7	1,668
Hursley ...	728	763	31	1	311
Itchen Stoke & Ovington ...	253	261	6	1	113
Itchen Valley ...	1,217	1,339	65	4	456
Kilmeston ...	216	227	10	2	91
Kings Worthy ...	2,113	2,688	331	9	932
Littleton ...	985	3,363	25	42	1,043
Micheldever ...	1,091	1,138	51	5	414
New Alresford ...	2,159	3,830	328	71	1,383
Northington ...	205	234	-	4	90
Old Alresford ...	527	552	34	-	182
Olivers Battery ...	747	1,531	-	35	509
Otterbourne ...	808	1,002	46	5	334
Owslebury ...	717	772	69	5	265
Sparsholt ...	715	686	66	4	230
Tichborne ...	192	180	-	-	79
Twyford ...	1,411	1,627	105	5	577
West End ...	5,064	5,929	216	101	2,030
Wonston ...	1,385	2,310	95	56	787

VITAL STATISTICS

		Win- chester R.D.C.	Hamp- shire C.C.	England & Wales (Provisional)
Number of live births	...	1,030	17,752	783,165
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	...	16.4	17.5	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total births	...	5.0	6.0	8.0
Number of stillbirths	...	13	214	9,898
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	...	12.0	12.0	12.0
Total live and stillbirths	...	1,043	17,966	793,063
Infant deaths	...	21	274	13,726
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (total)	...	20.0	15.0	18.0
Legitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births		21.0	15.0	17.0
Illegitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births		nil	26.0	24.0
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)		15.0	11.0	12.0
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	...	14.0	9.0	10.0
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	...	26.0	20.0	22.0
Maternal deaths (including abortion)		nil	3	-
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	...	nil	0.2	-

Births

		<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live births (legitimate) ...	511	469	980	921
Live births (illegitimate) ...	25	25	50	55
Live birth rate (corrected) ...	-	-	16.6	17.3
Live birth rate (England and Wales) ...	-	-	16.0	16.3

Deaths

		<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total deaths ...	331	305	636	646
Death rate (corrected) ...	-	-	8.0	9.6
Death rate (England and Wales)	-	-	11.6	11.9

Deaths by Age Groups

Age Group	M.	F.	Total	Percentage of total deaths	Chief causes of death
Under 1 year	11	10	21	5.0	
1 - 14 years	2	4	6		
15 - 24 years	3	2	5		
25 - 44 years	4	6	10	1.6	Malignant disease (47)
45 - 64 years	79	39	118	18.6	Heart disease (43)
65 - 74 years	100	64	164	25.8	Heart disease (170) Cerebro-vascular disease (76) Other circulatory disease (33)
75 years and over	132	180	312	49.0	Malignant disease (80) Pneumonia (42)

Causes of death are shown in the following table:

Cause of death	1971			1970
	M	F	Total	Total
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	1	-	1	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	-	1	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	2	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity	3	2	5	3
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	4	-	4	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	12	5	17	16
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	10	7	17	18
Malignant neoplasm, larynx	1	-	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	23	1	24	28
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	16	16	13
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	6	-	6	1
Leukaemia	4	-	4	5
Other malignant neoplasms	12	18	30	45
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	-	1	3
Diabetes mellitus	2	4	6	6
Other endocrine etc. diseases	1	-	1	-
Anaemias	-	3	3	2
Mental disorders	2	5	7	20
Meningitis	1	-	1	-
Multiple sclerosis	-	2	2	-
Other diseases of nervous system	3	4	7	7
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	3	8	11	9
Hypertensive disease	5	9	14	21
Ischaemic heart disease	102	48	150	138
Other forms of heart disease	14	24	38	36
Cerebrovascular disease	31	54	85	139
Other diseases of circulatory system	18	19	37	31
Influenza	2	-	2	12
Pneumonia	18	29	47	33
Bronchitis and emphysema	17	2	19	21
Asthma	1	1	2	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2	3	6
Peptic ulcer	1	2	3	4
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	1	2	4
Cirrhosis of liver	1	1	2	2
Other diseases of digestive system	5	5	10	7
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	2	2	4	6
Diseases of musculo skeletal system	1	-	1	3
Congenital anomalies	2	8	10	12
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	2	3	5	2
Other causes of perinatal mortality	2	2	4	-
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	4	6	10	10
Motor vehicle accidents	7	2	9	9
All other accidents	3	2	5	7
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	3	4	4
Total all causes	331	305	636	690

Maternal Deaths

There were no maternal deaths in the district during the year.

Infant Deaths

	<u>1971</u>			<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths under 1 year - legitimate	11	10	21	12	12
Deaths under 1 year - illegitimate	-	-	-	1	-
Winchester R.D.C. Quinquennial rate (average of five years)	-	-	15.4	15.3	17.0
England and Wales Quinquennial rate	-	-	18.1	18.0	18.5

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1 - 4 weeks	1 - 6 months	7 - 12 months
Congenital anomalies	3	1	1	-
Birth injury, etc	5	-	-	-
Infection	1	-	2	2
Others	5	-	1	-
Totals	14	1	4	2

Stillbirths

	<u>1971</u>			<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of births - legitimate	6	6	12	3	11
Number of births - illegitimate	1	-	1	-	-

The causes of death are shown in the following table:

Cause	Male	Female	Total
Macerated foetus	-	-	-
Congenital abnormalities	-	2	2
Foetal anoxia	2	1	3
Maternal causes	2	2	4
Other causes	1	-	1
Unknown	2	1	3
Totals	7	6	13

Perinatal Deaths

	<u>1971</u>			<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total stillbirths and deaths under one week	13	14	27	15	19

B. EPIDEMIOLOGY

GENERAL HEALTH

The number of claims in respect of sickness submitted to the Ministry of Social Security for the South-Eastern Region (excluding Greater London) during the year showed a slight decrease compared with the total for 1970.

The figures for the first quarter of the year showed a decrease as compared with the average for the past five years, but were about average for the remaining three quarters.

CANCER

The following table gives the number of deaths during 1971 from cancer in various regions and the average age at death:

	Male	Female	Average age at death	Age range
Alimentary tract ...	29	13	69	51 - 91
Lung, bronchus ...	23	1	63	48 - 75
Breast ...	-	16	66	31 - 92
Prostate ...	6	-	71	62 - 85
Bladder ...	3	1	72	64 - 81
Uterus, cervix ...	-	3	66	46 - 81
Leukaemia ...	4	-	65	52 - 76
Others ...	9	18	67	33 - 81

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table below shows the number of notifications received in respect of various infectious diseases during the past five years:

Year	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Infective Jaundice	Dysentery	Diphtheria	Polio- myelitis	Enteric Fever	Cerebro- Spinal Fever
1967	853	30	11	-	32	-	-	-	-
1968	54	13	1	-	49	-	-	-	-
1969	26	1	2	17	80	-	-	-	-
1970	137	-	7	3	10	-	-	-	-
1971	198	10	4	4	8	-	-	-	-

Measles

The number of notifications (one hundred and ninety-eight) compares with one hundred and thirty-seven in 1970.

Whooping Cough

Ten notifications were received during the year; no cases were notified the previous year.

Scarlet Fever

Four cases were notified as compared with seven in 1970.

Infective Jaundice

Four notifications were received as compared with three in 1970.

Dysentery and Food Poisoning

Of the eight cases of dysentery notified, five occurred in neighbouring families at Worthy Down; two occurred in another family at Alresford and the remaining case was at Twyford.

Shigella sonnei was the organism concerned in all cases.

Sixteen cases of food poisoning were notified; four were due to *Salmonella virchow* and occurred in one family at Fair Oak and two were caused by *Salmonella stanleyville* in one family at Bursledon. Of the remaining ten cases (which occurred in individual families in various parishes) three were due to *Salmonella typhimurium*, three to *Salmonella enteritidis* and the remaining four cases were caused by other types of *Salmonella*.

Tuberculosis

The table below shows the number of cases during the year:

Age Group	Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 14 years	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	-	-	-
25 - 44 years	-	-	-	-
45 - 64 years	1	-	-	-
65 years and over	1	1	-	-
Totals	2	1	-	-

The following table refers to new cases, cases transferred to the district and mortality during the past five years:

Year	New Cases					Transferred to District					Deaths				
	Pulm.		Non-pulm.		Total	Pulm.		Non-pulm.		Total	Pulm.		Non-pulm.		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1967	3	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
1968	4	3	-	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
1969	6	1	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
1970	4	2	-	2	8	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
1971	2	1	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Smallpox. 631 children received primary vaccination at clinics and surgeries and 159 were re-vaccinated.

Diphtheria. Primary immunisation was given to 985 children under four years of age and 45 to children aged four and over. In addition, 1,372 were given booster doses.

Polionyelitis. 1,047 children received a course of three doses and 1,576 received a fourth dose during the year.

Measles. 1,488 children were immunised during the year.

Rubella. 1,022 girls were immunised against rubella.

Whooping Cough. 960 children under four and 16 aged four and over were immunised; 287 received boosting doses.

Tetanus. 1,027 children received primary immunisation and 1,584 were given booster injections during the year.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

Children of thirteen years and over at four schools in the District were offered B.C.G. vaccination during the year. The table below shows the details:

	Wildern School Hedge End	Wyvern School Fair Oak	Hamble Secondary School	Perin's School, Alresford
Forms returned consenting to tuberculin testing and, if necessary, vaccination.	160	198	140	109
Children tuberculin tested	150	185	132	94
Children tuberculin positive	20	18	22	8
Children tuberculin negative	122	144	98	81
Children vaccinated	122	144	98	81

C. GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The majority of the cases in the district requiring hospital or specialist services are referred to the Royal Hampshire County Hospital. This also applies to maternity cases. Patients in the southern parishes, however, are more likely to be referred to the Southampton General Hospital. All these hospitals are administered by the Wessex Regional Hospital Board.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICE

The area is covered largely by general practitioners in group practices in Winchester, Southampton and Eastleigh and by smaller group practices in Alresford, Micheldever, Twyford, Hamble, Hedge End, West End and Wonston.

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

Maternity, Child Welfare and Health Visiting

Child Health Clinics are held in most of the parishes either weekly, fortnightly or monthly, depending on the population and attendance of mothers and children. These clinics are attended by a Health Visitor and, in most cases, by a Doctor. The attachment scheme, whereby the nursing staff, including a Health Visitor, is attached to a General Practitioner Group has been working satisfactorily.

In addition to the clinics, Health Visitors are informed of the births of all children in their areas and visit and offer help and advice. If accepted, the child is followed up throughout infancy and later in school.

District Nursing

The annual statistics for nurses' work are shown below:

			<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Total Cases	...	...	1,056	1,242	1,095
Midwifery	...	...	72	156	201
General cases	...	...	984	1,086	894
Total number of visits			25,973	25,433	26,731

Home Help Service

The number of cases assisted during the year was above average as compared with the previous three years.

Details are overleaf.

(a) Number of new applications received:

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Total received and investigated ...	242	237	224
Number assisted	159	162	131

(b) Summary of cases assisted during the year:

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Maternity	32	36	44
Emergency sickness	11	18	7
Post Hospital	22	19	14
Chronic sickness	33	34	27
Aged, sick and infirm	236	221	204
Others	5	4	2
	<u>339</u>	<u>332</u>	<u>298</u>

Nurseries and Child Minders Regulations

There are no Local Authority Day Nurseries in the area, but there are a number of privately conducted nurseries.

Number on register, January 1971	51
Registrations cancelled during year	<u>4</u>
	47
New registrations during year	<u>12</u>
Number on register, December 1971.	<u>59</u>

The nurseries are regularly inspected by Health Visitors and are satisfactorily conducted.

Welfare Foods

Welfare foods are distributed at all Women's Royal Voluntary Services centres and at many village stores.

Old People's Welfare

The welfare of old people is statutorily under the County Social Services Department.

There is also a growing body of voluntary workers in this field and the Hampshire Council of Social Service take an active interest in fostering and co-ordinating the voluntary work for the aged.

There are several clubs scattered in the various parishes and in many, in addition to all the club facilities, chiropody clinics are held and are proving a very useful and popular service.

The Meals on Wheels Service which is administered by the Social Services Department in conjunction with the Women's Royal Voluntary Service was extended during the year to cover Littleton, Micheldever, Sparsholt, Sutton Scotney and Wonston. The service now operates in the following areas:

Bighton	Fair Oak	Littleton	Otterbourne
Botley	Hamble	Martyr Worthy	Sparsholt
Compton	Hedge End	Micheldever	Sutton Scotney
Colden Common	Hound	New Alresford	Twyford
Easton	Kings Worthy	Old Alresford	West End
			Wonston

The charge to the recipient is 10p and meals were supplied on three (or, in some areas, two) days per week.

Health Education

The Rural Information Service is continuing its activities in the parishes.

The Health Education Section of the County Medical Department has provided speakers and visual aids for talks to various groups.

National Assistance Act, 1948

It was found necessary in one instance to take action under the above Act in respect of an infirm and physically incapacitated elderly man living alone in insanitary circumstances and who was not receiving proper care and attention.

Arrangements were made for his removal to St. John's Welfare Home, Andover.

D. SANITARY CONDITIONS

Details of this section are contained largely in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Weather

The most notable features during the year were the torrential storms in mid-June (which caused flooding and chaos all over the country) and the unusual "Indian Summer" which continued up to the middle of November. The total rainfall recorded was well below average and the amount of sunshine was the highest recorded since 1959.

The year started with bitterly cold weather and although there was a short break with milder conditions towards the end of January, the cold spell returned and persisted through February and early March with a fair quantity of snow and sleet. Another mild spell returned for several weeks but in the latter part of April the lowest temperatures for that month for thirty years were recorded. May was about average but June, after a warm start, turned cold and, after the torrential storms, remained unsettled. July was very dry with many warm days but August was wet and unsettled. September brought exceptionally fine weather which, with few exceptions, continued throughout October until mid-November and although the latter half of this month turned cold and produced some snow, milder weather was experienced for most of December.

Housing

Four hundred and ninety-nine new houses and flats were erected in the District during 1971. Of these, fifty-nine were erected on behalf of the Council and four hundred and forty were built by private enterprise.

The main development was in Bursledon, Hedge End, New Alresford and Fair Oak and to a lesser extent in Wonston and Olivers Battery.

Water

Parishes to the north and north-west of Winchester are supplied by Winchester Corporation's mains and the remainder of the District by the Southampton Corporation supply.

The water has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year; a copy of a report of a typical chemical analysis is shown in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector and bacteriological samples submitted for analysis have been satisfactory. None of the water supplied is liable to have plumbo-solvent action; the average fluoride content of the Winchester and Southampton supplies was 0.08 and 0.10 parts per million respectively.

Sewage Disposal

Kings Worthy, etc. Scheme. Approval was received in November from the Department of the Environment for the Council's scheme for the sewerage of Kings Worthy, South Wonston and Easton and the reconstruction of the Harestock sewage disposal works.

The Council's Consulting Engineers were requested to prepare the necessary documents in connection with tenders for the scheme.

Botley. In December, tenders were considered for the extension of the sewage disposal works and the provision of a relief sewer in Botley.

It was anticipated that the work would commence in March, 1972.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
AND PUBLIC CLEANSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1971

September, 1972.

To the Chairman and Members,
Winchester Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1971.

No staff changes occurred during the year enabling progress to be made without difficulty on both the Housing Survey and the other duties controlled by the department.

I wish to record my appreciation of the co-operation and assistance which have been given to me by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Health and other Committees and the Officers of the Council.

E. M. ORGAN

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Public Cleansing Officer.

VISITS

The following table shows the number of visits made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

Drainage etc.	937	Meat inspection	89
Stables and Piggeries	13	Inspection of	
Offensive		foodstuffs	182
accumulations	78	Other food premises	26
Rats and mice	11	Watercress beds	14
Insect pests	110	Water supplies	49
Ponds, ditches, etc.	47	Water sampling	68
Atmospheric pollution	132	Miscellaneous sampling	3
Offices, Shops and		Visits etc. sampling	4
Railway Premises	201	Farms	6
Factories	22	Drainage of trade premises	5
Outworkers' premises	9	Housing - Housing Acts	613
Public Halls and Places		Housing - Public Health	
of Entertainment	2	Acts	121
Noise abatement	130	Houses in multiple	
Animal Boarding		occupation	5
Establishments and		Housing Survey	1,620
Pet Animals	23	Caravans, etc.	270
Keeping of Animals	25	Filthy or verminous	
Bakeries	13	premises	24
Butchers	33	Disinfection	4
Fishmongers	8	Improvement Grants	495
Cooked meats	6	Miscellaneous	
Grocers and		housing inspections	54
Greengrocers	89	Infectious diseases	
Dairies and Milk		and food poisoning	391
Distributors	6	Petrol installations	205
Ice-cream premises	16	Miscellaneous	
Hotels, Restaurants		inspections	502
Cafes, etc.	42	Oil pollution,	
Licensed premises	92	beaches	7
Food stalls and		Refuse	372
Street vendors	9	Litter	49

HOUSING

Housing Survey

During the year the field work in connection with the Housing Survey referred to in my annual report for 1970 was carried out in the twenty-eight central and northern parishes. The purpose of the survey was to cover the requirements of Section 70 of the Housing Act 1969 (which places a duty on the Authority to review housing conditions in the area) and also to establish the condition of the present housing stock and to enable an assessment to be made of the current and future renewal and improvement needs of the area.

Approximately 1,000 rateable units were selected at random from the Rating Valuation List.

The total percentage of full inspections carried out was 82.7%. External inspections were made in the case of 6.5% of the premises.

The response by the occupiers to the Household and Sociological questionnaire which they were invited to complete was very good, 90.3% being returned.

Initial data from the Survey information revealed that approximately 3.9% of the houses are unfit within the definition laid down in Section 4 of the Housing Act 1957 and 5.7% of the houses are improveable up to Standard Grant level i.e., they lack one or more of the basic amenities.

With a few exceptions the "Unfit" and "Improveable" houses are mostly tenanted premises let unfurnished or "tied" cottages.

The percentage of unoccupied property in the Survey area is approximately 5.4%. Further information is in the process of being calculated.

In the preparation and carrying out of the survey I am pleased to acknowledge the willing assistance given by the South Hampshire Technical Unit, the Computer Programming staff of the Hampshire County Council and the staff of the Department of the Environment and also the co-operation of the occupiers of the premises selected.

Housing Allocation Scheme

Details, as compared with 1970 are as follows:

		<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>
(a)	New Council houses and flats occupied. ...	59	102
(b)	Number of "live" applications for accommodation at 31st December. ...	783	1,366

Provision of new houses and flats

23 houses and 36 flats have been erected for the Council during the year in the undermentioned parishes:

New Alresford (flats)	..	..	28	Hursley	..	..	..	8
Hound	..	..	..	7	Colden Common	..	..	2
Bursledon	..	..	..	2	Fair Oak (incl. 8 flats)			12

In addition, 428 houses and 12 flats were erected by private enterprise during the year in the undermentioned parishes:

Bursledon	..	..	..	..	84	Botley	..	..	..	3
Hedge End (inc. 12 flats)	..				81	Owslebury	..	..		3
New Alresford	..	..	..		56	Kings Worthy	..	..		2
Fair Oak	..	..	..	..	49	Micheldever	..	..		2
Wonston	..	..	..	..	40	Otterbourne	..	..		2
Olivers Battery	..	..	..		34	Sparsholt	..	..		2
Colden Common	..	..	..		20	Cheriton	..	..		1
Littleton	..	..	..	..	17	Hursley	..	..		1
West End	..	..	..	..	15	Itchen Valley	..	..		1
Hamble	..	..	..	..	10	Northington	..	..		1
Hound	..	..	..	..	8	Twyford	..	..		1
Compton	..	..	..	..	7					

The following table shows the number of houses built for the Council since 1945 and the number of huts now in occupation:

Parish	Houses	Flats	Prefabs	Total	Huts
Bighton	4	-	-	4	-
Bishops Sutton	10	-	-	10	-
Botley	95	16	-	111	4
Bramdean	20	-	-	20	-
Bursledon	320	136	-	456	-
Cheriton	17	-	-	17	-
Colden Common	62	20	8	90	-
Compton	48	25	-	73	-
Crawley	8	-	-	8	-
Fair Oak	87	48	-	135	-
Hamble	149	24	50	223	-
Hedge End	196	-	20	216	8
Hound	297	10	62	369	-
Hursley	31	-	-	31	-
Itchen Stoke and Ovington	6	-	-	6	-
Itchen Valley	26	-	-	26	-
Kilmeston	10	-	-	10	-
Kings Worthy	228	72	-	300	-
Littleton	17	-	-	17	-
Micheldever	35	9	-	44	-
New Alresford	185	99	-	284	-
Old Alresford	24	-	-	24	-
Otterbourne	22	12	-	34	-
Owslebury	41	16	-	57	-
Sparsholt	38	8	-	46	-
Twyford	55	12	-	67	-
West End	146	40	-	186	-
Wonston	59	16	-	75	-
Totals	2,236	563	140	2,939	12

Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses

The following table shows the action taken during the year in respect of unfit dwellings:

Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	9
Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	...	...	5
Number of Undertakings given not to permit use of dwellings for human habitation	...	...	...	...	1
Number of properties reconditioned following Statutory action under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	9

The following table shows the number of houses to be demolished, the number of unfit houses closed and the number of unfit houses made fit during the year:

1. HOUSES DEMOLISHED			
	Number	Displaced	
		Persons	Families
<u>In Clearance Areas:</u> ...	-	-	-
<u>Not in Clearance Areas:</u>			
Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 16 or Sec. 17 (1), Housing Act, 1957. ...	12	12	7
2. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED			
Under Sec. 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957 and Sec. 26, Hsg. Act, 1961. ...	5	13	5
Parts of buildings closed under Sec. 18, Housing Act, 1957 ...	-	-	-

3. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT				
			By Owner	By L.A.
After informal action by Local Authority	...		17	-
After formal notice under:				
(a) Public Health Acts	...	...	-	-
(b) Sec. 9 & 16, Housing Act, 1957	...	...	-	-
Previously included in a Demolition Order which has been revoked	...		1	-
Previously included in a Closing Order which has been determined	...		8	-

Although every effort is made to persuade owners or persons responsible to carry out necessary repairs to abate a nuisance or unsatisfactory conditions, it was necessary in two instances, where no co-operation was forthcoming from the owners, to resort to statutory action, as follows:

1. Blockage in Soil Pipe.

It was necessary to serve a statutory notice under Section 17 of the Public Health Act, 1961 in respect of a blockage in the soil pipe from the water closet of a first floor flat. As the owner failed to comply with the notice within the prescribed time limit the Council carried out the work in default and recovered the costs from the owner.

2. Dampness to ceiling and leaking bath waste joint.

Statutory Notices were served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936 to remedy dampness to a ceiling and under Section 39 of the Act to repair a leaking joint between the bath waste pipe and the soil and ventilation pipe.

As the work had not been carried out within the time allowed, legal proceedings were instituted. The owner then carried out the work satisfactorily before the Court hearing and the proceedings were withdrawn.

The following is a summary of defects remedied during the year as a result of formal or informal notices:

Leaking roofs	2	Defective window frames ..	7
Leaking/broken guttering	1	Defective window sashes ..	3
Defective rainwater pipes ...	1	Defective window cills ..	2
Pointing to walls ...	1	Defective handrail to stairs ..	1
Dampness to walls ...	11	Defective drainage ..	5
Defective wall plaster	2	<u>Sanitary accommodation</u>	
Dampness to ceilings...	3	Broken W.C. pan ..	1
Defective ceiling plaster	2	Defective pipes ..	1

Improvement Grants

The number of grant applications increased by 78% over the previous year to 114 and this is an encouraging sign that the public is becoming steadily more aware of the benefits now available under the scheme as revised by the Housing Act, 1969. The increase in the total grant available has been largely offset by the rise in building costs but the grant towards repairs has been welcomed, and this, together with the greater publicity, and removal of any requirements of a grant once made having to be repaid (i.e. no strings) has done a great deal to instil new life into a service which had lost much of its impetus. The recent Housing Survey clearly indicates that there is much to be done in the field of improvements, particularly in relation to the provision of standard amenities.

The following details show the process for the year under review:

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>Total over last 5 years</u>
Applications received	114	64	333
Applications approved	104	64	299
Applications withdrawn by applicants	-	-	27
Total visits made in connection with Improvement Grants	495	358	1,420
Grants made to:			
Owner-occupied properties ...	84	57	219
Tenanted properties	30	7	123

Qualification Certificates

The Housing Act, 1969 also introduced legislation governing the rents of privately rented dwellings which had been brought up to a satisfactory standard. Conditions governing the rent of these houses were no longer to be attached to grants. Controlled tenancies would be converted to regulated tenancies where the qualifying standard was attained; the rent is now determined under the Rent Act, 1968 and is subject to phasing under the present Act. Application for Qualification Certificate may be made with respect to a dwelling if "it is provided with all the standard amenities for the exclusive use of its occupants, is in good repair, having regard to its age, character and locality and disregarding internal decorative repair, is in all respects fit for human habitation". Application may also be made with respect to a dwelling notwithstanding that at the time of the making of the application the dwelling lacks one or more of the standard amenities, if the application is made before any works are begun for providing the dwelling with the standard amenities it lacks. Where the local authority are satisfied that the dwelling satisfies the qualifying conditions they are required to issue to the applicant a qualification certificate but if they are not so satisfied they must give notice of their refusal of his application.

99 applications were received during the year. The necessary inspections and visits were made in many cases in conjunction with Improvement Grants and other associated Housing Act procedure, and are, therefore, not separately recorded.

Caravans

Fourteen privately-owned licensed sites provide facilities for 563 residential caravans. One of these sites, in addition, caters for holiday caravans and tents during the summer months.

The two sites provided and administered by this Authority provide facilities for a further 183 residential caravans and for 15 short-stay caravans.

There has been a continuation of difficulties associated with sites during the year, particularly with the electrical installations provided.

The Council appointed a Consultant Electrical Engineer and as a result of his report found it necessary to institute proceedings against one site owner who finally carried out the works required before the hearing.

The electrical installations on all sites need to be inspected by a competent person to ensure that the normal deterioration which takes place does not reach a point where it becomes a real danger to the occupiers of the caravans or any visitors to the site.

Deterioration of general conditions on sites can gain momentum over a relatively short period involving the licensee in major expenditure and re-organisation.

What a pity so many of the licensees did not accept the advice of the local authorities when originally planning their sites, this would have enabled them to take up the growth in caravan size without having to change the basic site layout.

OFFICIAL SEARCHES

The practice of submitting written reports from this Department on all official searches on land and buildings was continued and during the year 2,616 applications were dealt with in this manner.

WATER SUPPLY

Mains Supplies

A number of parishes on the north and north-western boundaries of Winchester City are supplied by them with mains water; the mains supply to the remaining parishes in the rural district is provided by Southampton Corporation.

Samples from these supplies are submitted regularly for bacteriological and chemical analysis and reports received on these samples have shown them to be satisfactory. A copy of the Analyst's report on the water supplied by Southampton Corporation is shown below:

Physical Examination

Colour - Hazen units:	<5	Taste: normal
Appearance: Clear and colourless		Odour: normal

General Chemical Examination (in parts per million)

Reaction (ph value).....	7. 5	Total Alkalinity
Free and saline Nitrogen (as N).....	<0.01	(as CaCO_3) .....200
Albuminoid Nitrogen (as N).....	<0.01	Oxygen absorbed from
Nitrous Nitrogen (as N).....	<0.01	N/80 permanganate in
Nitric Nitrogen (as N).....	5.50	4 hrs. at 27°C <0.05
Total hardness by E.D.T.A.		Total dissolved
method (as CaCO_3).....	230	Solids at 180°C ... 320
Temporary hardness.....	200	
Permanent hardness.....	30	

Mineral Analysis (in parts per million)

Chloride as Cl.	13	Iron as Fe .....<0.05
Nitrate at NO_3	24	Lead as Pb. ....<0.05
Nitrate as NO_2	<0.05	Copper as Cu .....<0.05
		Zinc as Zn 0.05

Observation: This water is satisfactory.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat and Other Foods

Details of meat and other foods condemned as unsound during the year are as follows:

Meat at slaughterhouse	1,582 lbs.
Canned meats	192 lbs.
Other canned food	1,523 lbs.
Other food	404 lbs.

Slaughterhouse

The following table shows the number of carcasses and offal inspected and the number condemned in whole or in part at the slaughterhouse operating in this Authority's area:

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	40	23	23	6
Number inspected	40	23	23	6
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis</u> <u>and cysticercus</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	1	2	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	15	2	-	2
Tuberculosis only	-	-	-	-
Cysticercus only	-	-	-	-

Food Distribution Details

Investigation was carried out in respect of a Company which was found to be operating a refrigerated food distribution unit on waste land within the Borough's area. The unit was supplied from London and the food distributed from the unit by two vans. No planning approval had been sought and inspection revealed a complete absence of washing facilities and a number of other contraventions under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 and the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1965.

The Council decided to institute legal proceedings against the firm, but before these could be commenced the unit and vans had moved from the site and efforts to trace the whereabouts of the firm were unsuccessful.

General

A number of complaints were received and investigated during the year. Details of cases in which legal proceedings were instituted are as follows:

1. A sausage roll purchased at a shop in the District was found to be affected by mould; it appeared that the roll was allowed to far exceed its reasonable shelf life. A fine of £20 plus £5 costs was imposed.
2. A bottle of milk delivered by a roundsman was found to contain a piece of glass approximately 1½" long and ¼" wide; a fine of £40 was imposed.
3. A bottle of milk delivered by a roundsman; the milk was found to contain a large almond nut, complete with shell. Legal proceedings resulted in a fine of £25 being imposed.

At the end of the year legal proceedings were pending in three other cases, two of which concerned food affected by mould and the third was in respect of a foreign body in apricot jam.

Sampling of Food

The Hampshire County Council is the sampling authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1935. I am indebted to Mr. J. G. Preston, Chief Sampling Officer under the Act for the following details as to substances sampled during the year.

Milk Samples

177 samples of milk, including 25 of Channel Islands, were taken during the year. One of the latter and three of ordinary milk were unsatisfactory, as follows:-

Two samples of milk were obtained on separate occasions from a farm tank and each was found to contain 1% of added water. The slight adulteration appeared to be due to inadequate drainage of the milking machine after washing. Following-up samples were satisfactory. In the circumstances it was not felt necessary to consider legal action but the attention of the producer was drawn to the matter.

A sample of milk taken from another farm tank was found to contain 1% added water. This matter was also dealt with by warning, after further checks had proved to be free from complaint.

The sample of Channel Islands milk which was unsatisfactory did not involve any offence. It was from one of a number of churns of the milk which were sampled during the course of delivery to a wholesale dairy. When informally checked by Gorber, this particular sample was shown to be low in fat and in solids-not-fat (which could have indicated added water) but the Analyst's freezing point test confirmed the deficiency in the solids-not-fat to be due to natural causes. On average, the fat content of the whole consignment was of the required standard for Channel Islands milk.

Miscellaneous Samples

104 samples of articles other than milk were obtained, two only being the subject of adverse reports.

The adverse reports were in respect of:-

Apple Dessert Mix - The product was of satisfactory composition but the presence of sulphur dioxide preservative was not included in the list of ingredients. This complaint was taken up with the manufacturers with a view to the omission being rectified.

Wholemeal Bread - The sample consisted of two loaves described as wholemeal bread. Analysis showed that the bread was deficient of fibre and had probably been made from a mixture of wholemeal and wheatmeal flour. The distinction between wheatmeal and wholemeal in relation to flour and bread was taken up with the bakers responsible.

General

In addition to the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, the usual attention was given to the labels and descriptions of food and drugs under the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and medicines Act. No complaint of consequence occurred but certain matters affecting labelling requirements were brought to the notice of the manufacturers or vendors concerned.

FOOD HYGIENE

The following table shows the type of businesses carried on from premises in the district:

Provisions	...	...	...	107
Greengrocery	...	...	...	73
Sweets	...	...	...	88
Butchers	...	...	...	26
Bakers	...	...	...	17
Fishmongers	...	...	...	5
Fried fish shops		...	...	5
Cafes	...	...	...	21
Hotels	...	...	...	13
Public Houses		...	...	90
Off Licences	...	...	...	20
Chemists	...	...	...	9

Premises registered under Food and Drugs Act:

Ice-cream	...	...	...	187
Preserved foods		...	...	22

Informal notices were served during the year upon the occupiers of various food premises where inspection revealed defects, as shown in the table overleaf.

	Shops	Cafes, Restaur- ants	Hotels and Licensed Premises	Total
Provision of:				
Wash hand basins	2	2	35	39
Sinks	-	-	2	2
Constant supplies of hot water	2	2	30	34
Hand washing notices	4	2	12	18
Soap, towels and/or nailbrushes	3	-	4	7
Lockers for clothing	-	-	-	-
First aid materials	4	1	8	13
Lighting Improvement	2	-	1	3
Ventilation Improvement	-	-	1	1
Repair/cleanliness of walls, etc.	9	2	77	88
Repair/cleanliness of floors . . .	10	2	37	49
Cleanliness of apparatus	2	-	1	3
Cleanliness of food preparation tables and shelving	10	2	13	25
Protection of food from contamination	-	-	-	-
Provision of proper refuse storage containers	-	1	-	1
Other defects	2	-	5	7
<u>Sanitary accommodation:</u>				
Cleanliness/re-decoration	2	1	21	24
Lighting	-	-	1	1
Repair of roofs, walls, etc. . . .	1	-	4	5
Additional accommodation provided	-	-	-	-
Other improvements	1	-	3	4

PETROLEUM

The Council's decision to authorise the immediate issue of licences where premises comply with all the requirements has greatly assisted in dealing with both the annual renewals and changes of occupier which occur during the year.

205 inspections of premises storing petroleum spirit or mixtures have been made during the year; four new installations were licensed.

Details of the total number of premises licensed and the gallonage stored are as follows:

Number of premises on register	...	...	167
Number of petroleum spirit licences	...	...	158
Number of petroleum mixtures licences		...	9
Petroleum spirit gallonage licensed	...	...	28,548,323
Petroleum mixtures gallonage stored	...	...	2,368,292

New tanks and tanks due for testing have been dealt with; during the year; 22 such tanks have been tested.

Four tanks have been put permanently out of use during the year; in these cases it is necessary either to ensure its complete removal from the ground, the void filled in and consolidated, or, alternatively, the tank can be completely filled in with a cement slurry.

Transport of Corrosive Substances

Following a road accident involving a chemical carrying tanker it was incorrectly reported that its load consisted of chemicals which could interact and become a danger to the general public.

The Council, following representation, were advised that this and wider aspects of road transportation of chemical substances were being dealt with at that time; to ensure that corrosives are segregated and secured to minimise the possibility of dangerous interaction.

FACTORIES

Inspections, Defects Found and Outworkers

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	No. of Inspect- ions (3)	No. of written notices (4)	No. of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sects. 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Author- ity	19	2	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Author- ity	159	20	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (exclud- ing outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
Totals	178	22	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars (1)	Cases in which defects found				Prose- cutions insti- tuted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Other Offences</u>	1	1	-	1	-
Totals	1	1	-	1	-

3. Outwork:

	No. of Outwork- ers in August list (2)	No. of defaults in send- ing lists (3)	Prose- cutions under Column (3) (4)	Work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cutions (7)
Wearing)) Making Apparel) etc.	31	-	-	-	-	-
Other trades	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	31	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following tables show the number of premises in this District registered under the Act, the number inspected during the year and the numbers employed in the various classes of workplaces:

Class of Premises	Registered premises		
	Registered during the year	No. regist- ered at end of year	No. re- ceiving general inspect- ion during year
Offices 	2	99	11
Retail Shops 	2	172	86
Wholesale shops, warehouses ...	-	8	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	59	36
Fuel storage depots 	-	2	1
Totals 	4	340	138

(a) Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors
to registered premises

... ..

201

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	1,541
Retail shops	623
Wholesale departments, warehouses	105
Catering establishments open to the public	361
Canteens	47
Fuel storage depots	7
Total	2,684
Total Males	1,442
Total Females	1,242

(b) Number of Exemptions 1 (Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9)).

Contraventions

The number of contraventions found under the various Sections of the Act were as follows:

Cleanliness	5	First Aid provisions	4
Washing facilities	4	Fencing of exposed parts of machinery	1
Sanitary Conveniences	2	Other contraventions	7
Floors, passages and stairs	3		

It was necessary on a number of occasions to advise the persons responsible that unless these contraventions were remedied without delay the matter would be placed before the Health Committee with a view to proceedings being taken.

Accidents

The number of accidents reported and investigated during the year was as follows:

Workplace	Number reported	Number investigated	Informal advice given	No further action necessary
Offices	12	12	7	5
Retail shops	3	3	2	1
Wholesale shops and warehouses ...	6	3	1	5
Catering establishments and canteens ...	2	2	1	1
Fuel storage depots ...	-	-	-	-
Totals ...	23	20	11	12

Causes of the above accidents and the type of premises in which they occurred are shown below:

	Offices	Retail shops	Wholesale shops and warehouses	Catering establishments and canteens	Fuel storage depots
Machinery ...	-	-	-	-	-
Transport ...	-	-	-	-	-
Falls of persons ...	8	1	1	-	-
Stepping on or striking against object ...	-	-	1	-	-
Handling goods ...	4	2	4	2	-
Falling objects ...	-	-	-	-	-
Electricity ...	-	-	-	-	-
All others ...	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ...	12	3	6	2	-

RODENT AND INSECT CONTROL

The staff operating this service consists of the Rodent Officer, Deputy Rodent Officer and two operatives.

General surveys of areas were made and treatments carried out where necessary; domestic premises are treated free of charge, business premises are treated on a rechargeable basis and agricultural premises are generally on contract agreements.

Details of inspections carried out during the year are as follows;

	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	771	276
Number infested by:		
(a) rats	735	217
(b) mice	32	48
Total number of properties inspected for reasons other than notification ...	1,387	532
Number infested by:		
(a) rats	498	154
(b) mice	19	33

This section is also responsible for the test baiting and control of rodents in sewer systems.

Wasps. The number of complaints received during the year relating to wasps nest was 311; each complaint was dealt with immediately and resulted in the destruction of the wasps and removal of the nests. The standard charge payable in respect of this treatment is £1.00.

Flies. Sixteen treatments were carried out at premises where the occupiers were unable to cope with them.

Fleas. Eight treatments were given at premises which had become infested with fleas.

In addition, thirteen treatments were carried out against other insect pests.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

The vehicle fleet engaged on this work consists of:

Two 3-ton tipping vehicles.
Nine 5-ton tipping vehicles.
Three 7-ton tipping vehicles.

The total number of new dwellings which have been absorbed into the existing service over the past five years is as follows:

1967	-	813
1968	-	873
1969	-	600
1970	-	624
1971	-	499
Total		<u>3,409</u>

Collection is by the paper/plastic sack or bin liner systems.

Labour

A productivity scheme involving the manual staff engaged on refuse collection, disposal, litter patrols and special collection commenced during the year for a six months trial period.

I commented in my report for 1970 that one of the advantages which one hoped would be derived from such a scheme would be a reduction in the major problem of insufficient labour, which generally resulted from absenteeism and sickness periods not exceeding three days. No marked improvement in this aspect was noted by the end of the year but since "hope springs eternal" I look forward to an improvement in 1972.

The table below indicates that the sickness rate has decreased slightly (3.8) during the year under review.

<u>Year</u>		<u>Working weeks lost</u>
1966	... ..	78.0
1967	... ..	142.0
1968	... ..	145.0
1969	... ..	185.7
1970	... ..	189.0
1971	... ..	181.9

Absence from work for other reasons than sickness totalled 9.60 weeks. When added to weeks lost through sickness, this is equivalent to approximately four men being absent from work for the whole of the year (this does not take into consideration vacancies and holidays).

Special Collections

This service has been continued on a "free of charge" basis throughout the year and resulted in 1,700 collections being made - an average in excess of 32 per week, showing an increase of 33% on the previous year. That there is an ever-increasing demand for this service is shown by the number of collections each year since 1965 (the first full year the service was in operation):

<u>Year</u>		<u>Number of "special collections"</u>
1965	... ..	193
1966	... ..	373
1967	... ..	779
1968	... ..	907
1969	... ..	1,054
1970	... ..	1,275
1971	... ..	1,700

In addition to these collections a service is given to such events as Parish Fetes, Scouts and Guides Camps, caravan rallies, etc. taking place in the district by providing sack units during the period of their stay. From letters received from the various organisers of such events these arrangements are much appreciated.

Garden Refuse

During the first part of the year the refuse collection service in certain parts of the area was subjected to difficulties as a result of occupiers wishing to dispose of considerable quantities of garden refuse.

In discussing the introduction of the productivity scheme with the representatives of the refuse collectors it was agreed to terminate the service whereby garden refuse would be taken with domestic refuse and consider other arrangements for its collection, perhaps in conjunction with providing local sites as envisaged within the Civic Amenities Act, 1967.

Litter Patrol

The two litter patrol units, one based at each depot, have continued to operate satisfactorily. The scheduling of rounds on a productivity basis has in my opinion improved the service generally over the whole area.

The misuse of receptacles by some members of the public still remains a problem not only when one unit is filled to overflowing when others some ten paces away are almost empty, but also when the whole unit is subjected to what I can only describe as 'scientific destruction'. No doubt these people form a part of that section of the community who suffered some frustration during the early months of their life.

To place this matter of litter in its perspective it will not be amiss to identify the channels available to ratepayers for disposal of unwanted items.

1. Normal refuse collection.
2. Special collections - free of charge - from domestic premises on request.
3. Refuse disposal points open to ratepayers from 7.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday and 7.30 a.m. to 12 a.m. on Saturdays.
4. Provision and emptying of litter bins at road lay-bys and throughout each parish as requested by the Parish Council.

We still do not seem to cater, however, for the person who purchases an item for immediate consumption and does not find a litter receptacle within hands reach, and the picnic group who face similar hardships.

A further group seems to consist of the do-it-yourself enthusiasts, small and sometimes larger metal building firms and garages who instead of taking these materials to a disposal point, lose both money and sleep during their nocturnal wanderings round the countryside to find a place to spoil.

Litter is a problem which will be with us for a long time to come.

Abandoned Cars

The collection of abandoned cars continues with the use of the low-loader where possible, but it is necessary in many cases to call on garage breakdown equipment; 33 such cars were towed in during the year.

An arrangement with a scrap metal merchant has enabled unwanted cars to be collected from premises at no charge to the Council or to the owner.

The collection of these vehicles continues at an undiminished rate, 144 of these being collected during the year; arrangements are made for their disposal through the scrap metal merchants using Horn Hill Depot.

Street Cleansing

The locations being dealt with by the end of the year were as follows:

<u>Wound</u>	Station Road (part) Victoria Road (part)
<u>Botley</u>	The Square Winchester Street (part) Church Lane (part)
<u>New Alresford</u>	Broad Street East Street West Street

Other locations are being considered and further requests can be expected.

This again is a part of the litter scene with which I have dealt under the heading "Litter Patrol".

Refuse Disposal

The disposal of all refuse continues to be carried out by controlled tipping at the two disposal points, Knowle Lane, Fair Oak and Weston Colley, Nicholdevon, which serve this area together with Eastleigh M.D.

The arrangements, referred to in my report for 1970, by which the tipping capacity of the site at Knowle Lane was to be increased continued slowly through the year and completion is not anticipated until 1972.

The Report of the Working Party on Refuse Disposal was considered and the recommendations relating to controlled tipping, whilst adding to the cost of disposal, were recognised as being a progressive and necessary procedure to implement.

A further site was obtained for tipping purposes although it is not intended to use it for the disposal of crude refuse, since sufficient capacity has been achieved on the existing sites to deal with the period culminating in the operation of the incineration plant.

Satisfactory progress has been made in relation to the provision of the incinerator at Poles Lane, Otterbourne. The contractors commenced work on site in May. At the end of the year approval of Contractors design drawings were almost complete and the overall progress was generally in accordance with the planned programme.

A similar refuse incinerator which Southampton City Council (in conjunction with this Council) intend to erect at Netley Hill is to be the subject of a Public Inquiry. It is proposed that this plant will take the refuse generated from the six southernmost parishes of this Authority together with that part of Southampton east of the river Itchen.

Salvage

The level of recovery of paper and other salvage has been most disappointing over the year, and the drop in income has been considerable.

The system which is used is one which ensures separation of salvage by the occupier and involves the collection personnel in a minimum of effort. Collectors are paid a bonus on the salvage which is sold but this seems to have little or no effect in promoting enthusiasm for the collection of salvage.

Whilst it is appreciated that at the present time the arrangements for dealing with salvage at Horn Hill Depot are not at all satisfactory, this attitude towards salvage does nothing in providing a service to the ratepayers and an income to either the Council or the men themselves.

